

## Provisional Vital Statistics for May 2003

**Live births** increased in May as 6,391 Missouri babies were born compared with 6,189 one year earlier. Cumulative births for the first five months of the year increased by 1.4 percent from 30,274 to 30,711.

**Deaths** decreased in May as 4,183 Missouri died compared with 4,799 in May 2002. Cumulative deaths for January—May decreased by 5.8 percent from 25,861 to 24,357.

The **Natural increase** in May was 2,208 (6,391 births minus 4,183 deaths). The natural increase rose for all three time periods shown below.

**Marriages** increased for all three time periods shown below, while **dissolutions of marriage** decreased for all three time periods. For the 12 months ending with May, the marriage to divorce ratio increased from 1.81 to 1.88

**Infant deaths** decreased in May and for January—May, but continued to show an increase for the 12 months ending with May. For this latter time period, the infant death rate increased from 8.3 to 8.4 per 1,000 live births.

### PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR MAY 2003

Item	<u>May</u>				<u>Jan.-May cumulative</u>				<u>12 months ending with May</u>				
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		
	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
<b>Live Births</b> .....	6,189	6,391	13.3	14.1	30,274	30,711	13.0	13.2	73,519	77,108	13.9	13.0	13.6
<b>Deaths</b> .....	4,799	4,183	10.3	9.2	25,861	24,357	11.1	10.5	55,159	55,369	9.8	9.8	9.8
<b>Natural increase</b> ....	1,390	2,208	3.0	4.9	4,413	6,354	1.9	2.7	18,360	21,739	4.1	3.2	3.8
<b>Marriages</b> .....	4,248	4,541	9.1	10.0	14,203	14,852	6.1	6.4	41,675	42,943	7.6	7.4	7.5
<b>Dissolutions</b> .....	2,130	2,069	4.6	4.6	9,474	9,406	4.1	4.0	23,025	22,845	4.4	4.1	4.0
<b>Infant deaths</b> .....	76	57	12.3	8.9	301	291	9.9	9.5	608	651	7.7	8.3	8.4
<b>Population base</b> ..... (in thousands)	...	...	5,637	5,673	...	...	5,637	5,673	...	...	5,612	5,652	5,688

\* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Rates are adjusted to account for varying lengths of monthly reporting periods.

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